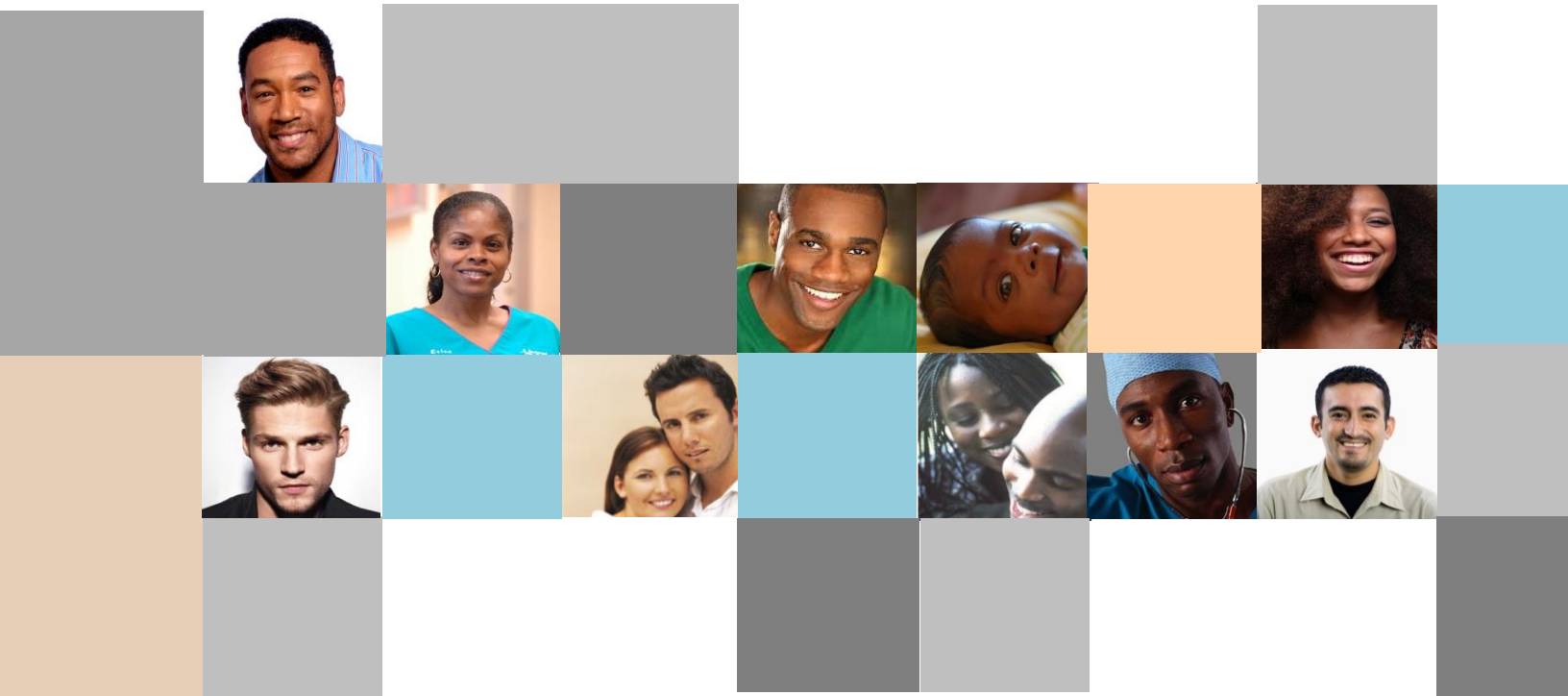


# INTERIM HIV/AIDS SURVEILLANCE REPORT

PRELIMINARY 2014 DATA





## About This Report

The District of Columbia Department of Health (DOH) HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration (HAHSTA) is releasing a preliminary assessment of HIV/AIDS cases diagnosed in the District of Columbia during the 2014 calendar year. HAHSTA intends this report to provide a brief snapshot of the HIV epidemic within the District. This interim report marks an effort to provide timely data to local community, governmental, clinical, and academic institutions contributing to the public health response targeting the prevention and treatment of HIV. HAHSTA will publish a more comprehensive and complete presentation of available data in the *Annual Epidemiology & Surveillance Report*, as well as population-specific data briefs. The tables provide an overview of the number and distribution of newly identified HIV and AIDS cases across various demographic, transmission, viral suppression, and geographic characteristics; as well as estimates concerning the total number of HIV cases diagnosed in the District of Columbia that are presumed to still be living.

## Limitations of Preliminary Data Due to HIV/AIDS Case Reporting Delays

While District of Columbia Municipal Code (22 DCMR 206) mandates the reporting of HIV and AIDS diagnoses to the Department of Health, the ascertainment of HIV/AIDS cases among District residents requires multiple efforts involving both passive and active surveillance activities. In addition to the receipt of case report forms and laboratory results from physicians and testing facilities, HAHSTA staff routinely engage in outreach efforts to identify and/or confirm potential HIV/AIDS cases through direct contact with reporting facilities and/or the review of medical records at provider sites. Additionally, HAHSTA routinely cross-references multiple data systems and sources (e.g., STD, death certificates) to aid in identifying potential HIV/AIDS cases not documented in the District's Enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS).

As part of its review process, HAHSTA monitors the time interval between the date an HIV/AIDS case is diagnosed and the date the case is documented by the health department. Reporting delays sometimes occur given gaps in the timeliness and completeness of passive HIV/AIDS case reporting and the time needed for Department of Health staff to address such deficiencies through the active surveillance activities specified above. While HAHSTA has and continues to improve the timeliness and completeness of HIV/AIDS case reporting through provider education, electronic laboratory reporting, data system integration, and the routine review of internal processes and protocols, reporting delays remain an issue in the development, release, and interpretation of data reports. Based on an assessment of recent surveillance data, approximately 90% of newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS cases are reported and documented by the health department within 12 months after the diagnosis year.

***Given delays in the reporting and identification of newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS cases, the data presented is considered preliminary and should be interpreted with this limitation.*** The number of newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS cases presented for the 2014 calendar year in the current report is representative of information reported to the District of Columbia Department of Health through November 16, 2015. This number is subject to change as additional information is ascertained from reporting sources.

The Interim HIV Surveillance Report is compiled by of the HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, & TB Administration's Strategic Information Division (SID). Questions regarding this report and/or additional data request should be directed to:

Strategic Information Division  
HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, & TB Administration  
District of Columbia Department of Health  
899 North Capitol St. NE / Fourth Floor  
Washington, DC 20002  
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This report is available online at: [www.doh.dc.gov/hahsta](http://www.doh.dc.gov/hahsta)

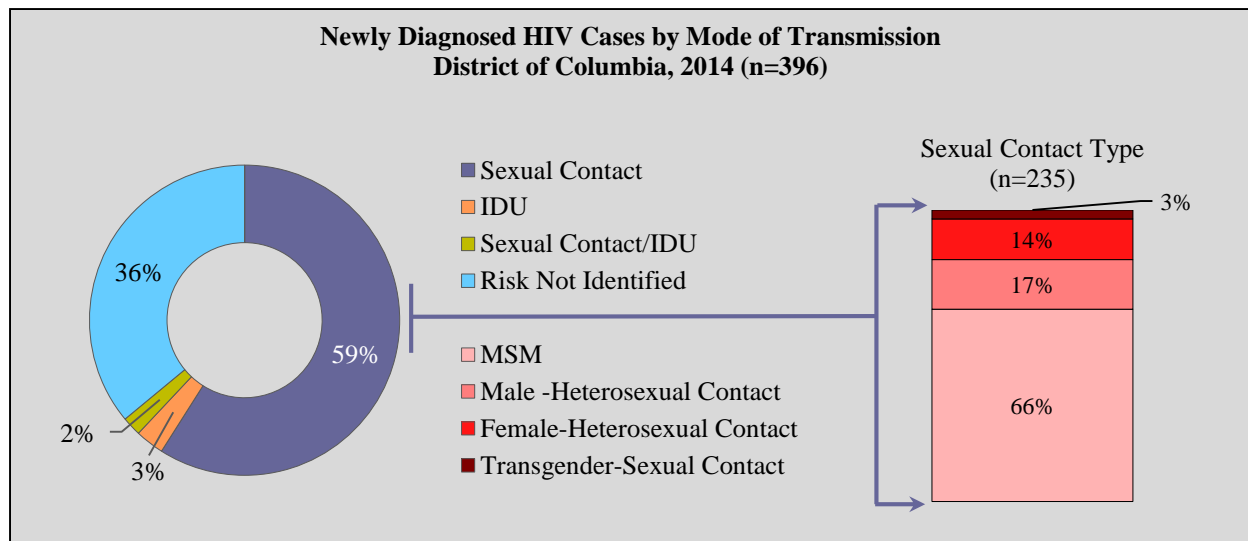
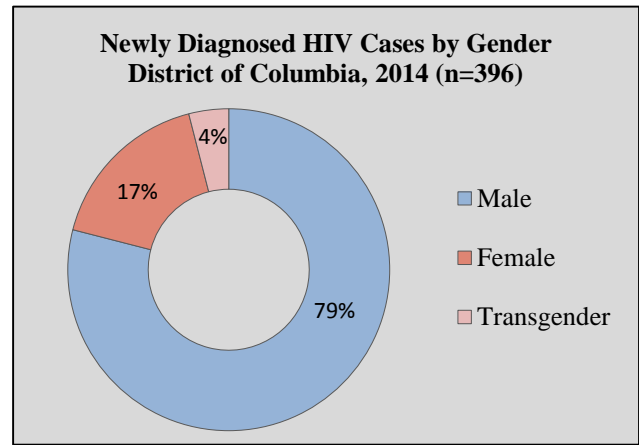
## New in this Report

The Department of Health seeks opportunities to collect and report data on HIV that is relevant for strategies, policies and programs to reduce the impact of the epidemic on District of Columbia residents. This approach also contributes to a better understanding of the populations living with HIV and reducing stigma and barriers for an effective public health response.

In this report, HAHSTA will be introducing two new data elements. First, HAHSTA will report new HIV cases among transgender persons. Second, HAHSTA will be changing the categorization of HIV transmission. For all new HIV cases, known behavioral transmissions will be defined by general sexual contact and/or Injection Drug Use (IDU) categories. This approach is inclusive across gender and types of sexual intercourse, acknowledging the diversity in gender identity among District residents. HAHSTA hopes this data reporting will reduce stigmatization on sexual contact and prevent the misclassification of transgender cases. HAHSTA will report the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defined sexual modes of transmission for men and women. For transgender persons, HAHSTA will utilize general sexual contact and IDU modes of transmission categories.

For newly diagnosed HIV cases, both sex assigned at birth and current gender identity are reported by providers as part of the HIV case report form utilized in local surveillance activities. Individuals explicitly identified as transgender and those reporting a current gender identity different from their sex at birth are classified as transgender for the purposes of this report. At this time, information concerning current gender status is only collected at the time of initial HIV diagnosis. Given the potential for changes in gender identity over time, HAHSTA surveillance staff also evaluate the sex of persons living with HIV as documented on current laboratory reports received by the health department compared to reported birth sex on initial HIV case report forms. After reviewing surveillance records for potential reporting errors, individuals that appear to have had a change in sex status are classified as transgender in the current document. Given the potential underreporting of transgender status by providers and the lack of longitudinal data concerning self-reported gender identity, the number of HIV cases among transgender individuals presented in this document may reflect an underestimate. With the goal of being more inclusive and providing a more accurate reflection of the demographic diversity among persons living with HIV, HAHSTA continues to explore strategies for enhancing data collection and reporting processes to better account for the complexity associated with monitoring individual sex and gender identity.

As improvements in the acquisition of risks information concerning newly diagnosed HIV cases is achieved through enhanced surveillance activities, HAHSTA will continue to evaluate the manner in which aggregate data is reported to ensure that the complexities of the HIV epidemic within the District of Columbia are accurately characterized.



**Table 1: All Diagnosed HIV disease between January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014; Persons diagnosed in the District of Columbia and presumed living as of November 16, 2014<sup>1</sup>**

	HIV Diagnoses						People Living With HIV Disease <sup>3</sup>	
	ALL		HIV (Not AIDS)		Concurrent with Stage 3 (AIDS) Diagnoses <sup>2</sup>		N	%
	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Total	396	100.0	313	100.0	83	100.0	16,740	100.0
<b>Sex<sup>4</sup></b>								
Male	314	79.3	253	80.8	61	46.9	12,087	72.2
Female	68	17.2	49	15.7	19	14.6	4,392	26.2
Transgender	14	3.5	11	3.5	3	2.3	261	1.6
<b>Race/Ethnicity<sup>5</sup></b>								
White	62	15.7	50	16.0	12	9.2	2,813	16.8
Black	282	71.2	222	70.9	60	46.2	12,446	74.3
Hispanic	35	8.8	28	8.9	7	5.4	1,066	6.4
Other	17	4.3	13	4.2	4	3.1	415	2.5
<b>Age group<sup>6</sup></b>								
0-12	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	36	0.2
13-19	15	3.8	14	4.5	1	0.8	112	0.7
20-29	130	32.8	114	36.4	16	12.3	1,552	9.3
30-39	101	25.5	80	25.6	21	16.2	2,860	17.1
40-49	71	17.9	53	16.9	18	13.8	4,844	28.9
50-59	55	13.9	40	12.8	15	11.5	5,033	30.1
60+	24	6.1	12	3.8	12	9.2	2,303	13.8
<b>Mode of Transmission<sup>7</sup></b>								
Sexual Contact	235	59.3	183	58.5	52	40.0	11,793	70.4
IDU	11	2.8	10	3.2	1	0.8	2,159	12.9
Sexual Contact/IDU	6	1.5	5	1.6	1	0.8	562	3.4
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	194	1.2
Risk not identified	144	36.4	115	36.7	29	22.3	2,032	12.1
<b>Ward<sup>8</sup></b>								
1	51	12.9	38	12.1	13	10.0	2,143	12.8
2	46	11.6	35	11.2	11	8.5	1,837	11.0
3	7	1.8	6	1.9	1	0.8	406	2.4
4	33	8.3	25	8.0	8	6.2	1,511	9.0
5	45	11.4	33	10.5	12	9.2	2,166	12.9
6	20	5.1	18	5.8	2	1.5	1,802	10.8
7	58	14.6	47	15.0	11	8.5	2,272	13.6
8	71	17.9	56	17.9	15	11.5	3,085	18.4
Unknown	65	16.4	55	17.6	10	7.7	1,518	9.1
<b>HIV Disease Status<sup>9</sup></b>								
Stage 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4,128	24.9
Stage 2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,945	17.7
Stage 3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	932	5.6
Unknown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8,735	52.6

<sup>1</sup> Includes all cases reported to the health department by November 16, 2014

<sup>2</sup> HIV diagnosed concurrently with Stage 3 (AIDS) disease (includes an AIDS diagnosis within 30 days of an HIV diagnosis)

<sup>3</sup> Cumulative number of non-deceased individuals diagnosed with HIV with a residential address in the District of Columbia at the time of diagnosis. Does not account for the residential migration of persons living with HIV (PLWH) in and out of the jurisdiction over time.

<sup>4</sup> Transgender status reported only at the time of HIV diagnosis; Transgender PLWH population may be under-documented

<sup>5</sup> Other race includes mixed race individuals, Asians, Alaska Natives, American Indians, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and unknown

<sup>6</sup> For HIV and AIDS diagnoses, age at diagnosis is reported; for PLWHA, age as of December 31, 2014 is reported

<sup>7</sup> Other includes perinatal transmission, hemophilia, blood transfusion, and occupational exposure (healthcare workers)

<sup>8</sup> Ward at HIV disease diagnosis

<sup>9</sup> Stage 1: CD4 T-cell count of more than 500 cells/ $\mu$ L; Stage 2: CD4 T-cell count of between 200 cells/ $\mu$ L and 500 cells/ $\mu$ L, CD4 T-cell percent of between 14% and 29%; Stage 3: CD4 T-cell count of less than 200 cells/ $\mu$ L; Unknown: CD4 test result is unknown

**Table 2: Men - Diagnosed HIV disease between January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014; Persons diagnosed in the District of Columbia and presumed living as of November 16, 2014<sup>1</sup>**

	HIV Diagnoses						People Living With HIV Disease <sup>3</sup>	
	ALL		HIV (Not AIDS)		Concurrent with Stage 3 (AIDS) Diagnoses <sup>2</sup>		N	%
	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Total	314	100.0	253	100.0	61	100.0	12,087	100.0
<b>Race/Ethnicity<sup>4</sup></b>								
White	58	18.5	47	18.6	11	18.0	2,686	22.2
Black	210	66.9	168	66.4	42	68.9	8,165	67.6
Hispanic	32	10.2	26	10.3	6	9.8	899	7.4
Other	14	4.5	12	4.7	2	3.3	337	2.8
<b>Age group<sup>5</sup></b>								
≤ 19	12	3.8	11	4.3	1	1.6	70	0.6
20-29	105	33.4	96	37.9	9	14.8	1,147	9.5
30-39	78	24.8	62	24.5	16	26.2	1,936	16.0
40-49	58	18.5	43	17.0	15	24.6	3,474	28.7
50-59	43	13.7	32	12.6	11	18.0	3,716	30.7
60+	18	5.7	9	3.6	9	14.8	1,744	14.4
<b>Mode of Transmission<sup>6</sup></b>								
MSM	155	49.4	124	49.0	31	50.8	7,011	58.0
IDU	3	1.0	2	0.8	1	1.6	1,252	10.4
MSM/IDU	6	1.9	5	2.0	1	1.6	546	4.5
Heterosexual contact	41	13.1	32	12.6	9	14.8	1,819	15.0
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	87	0.7
Risk not identified	109	34.7	90	35.6	19	31.1	1,372	11.4
<b>Ward<sup>7</sup></b>								
1	49	15.6	37	14.6	12	19.7	1,723	14.3
2	44	14.0	34	13.4	10	16.4	1,610	13.3
3	6	1.9	5	2.0	1	1.6	340	2.8
4	26	8.3	19	7.5	7	11.5	1,049	8.7
5	36	11.5	29	11.5	7	11.5	1,533	12.7
6	18	5.7	17	6.7	1	1.6	1,347	11.1
7	42	13.4	33	13.0	9	14.8	1,417	11.7
8	45	14.3	36	14.2	9	14.8	1,965	16.3
Unknown	48	15.3	43	17.0	5	8.2	1,103	9.1
<b>HIV Disease Status<sup>8</sup></b>								
Stage 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,631	21.8
Stage 2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,112	17.5
Stage 3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	635	5.3
Unknown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6,709	55.5

<sup>1</sup> Includes all cases reported to the health department by November 16, 2014

<sup>2</sup> HIV diagnosed concurrently with Stage 3 (AIDS) disease ( includes an AIDS diagnosis within 30 days of an HIV diagnosis)

<sup>3</sup> Cumulative number of non-deceased individuals diagnosed with HIV with a residential address in the District of Columbia at the time of diagnosis. Does not account for the residential migration of persons living with HIV (PLWH) in and out of the jurisdiction over time.

<sup>4</sup> Other race includes mixed race individuals, Asians, Alaska Natives, American Indians, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and unknown

<sup>5</sup> For HIV and AIDS diagnoses, age at diagnosis is reported; for PLWHA, age as of December 31, 2014 is reported

<sup>6</sup> Other includes perinatal transmission, hemophilia, blood transfusion, and occupational exposure (healthcare workers)

<sup>7</sup> Ward at HIV disease diagnosis

<sup>8</sup> Stage 1: CD4 T-cell count of more than 500 cells/μL; Stage 2: CD4 T-cell count of between 200 cells/μL and 500 cells/μL, CD4 T-cell percent of between 14% and 29%; Stage 3: CD4 T-cell count of less than 200 cells/μL; Unknown: CD4 test result is unknown

**Table 3: Women - Diagnosed HIV disease between January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014; Persons diagnosed in the District of Columbia and presumed living as of November 16, 2014<sup>1</sup>**

	HIV Diagnoses						People Living With HIV Disease <sup>3</sup>	
	ALL		HIV (Not AIDS)		Concurrent with Stage 3 (AIDS) Diagnoses <sup>2</sup>		N	%
	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Total	68	100.0	49	100.0	19	100.0	4,392	100.0
<b>Race/Ethnicity<sup>4, β</sup></b>								
Black	62	91.2	46	93.9	16	84.2	4,061	92.5
Non-Black	6	8.8	3	6.1	3	15.8	331	7.5
<b>Age group<sup>5, β</sup></b>								
≤ 29	18	26.5	13	26.5	5	26.3	427	9.7
30-39	19	27.9	15	30.6	4	21.1	865	19.7
40-49	13	19.1	10	20.4	3	15.8	1,301	29.6
50+	18	26.5	11	22.4	7	36.8	1,799	41.0
<b>Mode of Transmission<sup>6</sup></b>								
IDU	8	11.8	8	16.3	0	0.0	892	20.3
Heterosexual contact	32	47.1	21	42.9	11	57.9	2,790	63.5
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	103	2.3
Risk not identified	28	41.2	20	40.8	8	42.1	607	13.8
<b>Ward<sup>7, §</sup></b>								
1	---	---	---	---	---	---	390	8.9
2	---	---	---	---	---	---	209	4.8
3	---	---	---	---	---	---	60	1.4
4	---	---	---	---	---	---	438	10.0
5	---	---	---	---	---	---	598	13.6
6	---	---	---	---	---	---	435	9.9
7	---	---	---	---	---	---	806	18.4
8	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,064	24.2
Unknown	---	---	---	---	---	---	392	8.9
<b>HIV Disease Status<sup>8</sup></b>								
Stage 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,434	32.7
Stage 2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	783	17.8
Stage 3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	289	6.6
Unknown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,886	42.9

<sup>1</sup> Includes all cases reported to the health department by November 16, 2014

<sup>2</sup> HIV diagnosed concurrently with Stage 3 (AIDS) disease ( includes an AIDS diagnosis within 30 days of an HIV diagnosis)

<sup>3</sup> Cumulative number of non-deceased individuals diagnosed with HIV with a residential address in the District of Columbia at the time of diagnosis. Does not account for the residential migration of persons living with HIV (PLWH) in and out of the jurisdiction over time.

<sup>4</sup> Non-Black race/ethnicity includes mixed race individuals, Whites, Asians, Alaska Natives, American Indians, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, Hispanic, and unknown.

<sup>5</sup> For HIV and AIDS diagnoses, age at diagnosis is reported; for PLWHA, age as of December 31, 2014 is reported

<sup>6</sup> Other includes perinatal transmission, hemophilia, blood transfusion, and occupational exposure (healthcare workers)

<sup>7</sup> Ward at HIV disease diagnosis

<sup>8</sup> Stage 1: CD4 T-cell count of more than 500 cells/μL; Stage 2: CD4 T-cell count of between 200 cells/μL and 500 cells/μL, CD4 T-cell percent of between 14% and 29%; Stage 3: CD4 T-cell count of less than 200 cells/μL; Unknown: CD4 test result is unknown

<sup>β</sup> Race/ethnicity and age group stratification categories may be different from that utilized in other tables in order to ensure adequate cell counts.

<sup>§</sup> Geographic data for newly diagnosed HIV cases has been suppressed given that the total number of cases within multiple wards is less than 3 for the specified time period.



**Table 4: Transgender<sup>1</sup> - Diagnosed HIV disease between January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014; Persons diagnosed in the District of Columbia and presumed living as of November 16, 2014<sup>2</sup>**

	HIV Diagnoses						People Living With HIV Disease <sup>4</sup>	
	ALL		HIV (Not AIDS)		Concurrent with Stage 3 (AIDS) Diagnoses <sup>3</sup>		N	%
	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Total	14	100.0	11	100.0	3	100.0	261	100.0
<b>Gender<sup>β</sup></b>								
Transgender Women	10	71.4	10	90.9	0	0.0	174	66.7
Transgender Men	4	28.6	1	9.1	3	100.0	87	33.3
<b>Race/Ethnicity<sup>5,β</sup></b>								
Black	10	71.4	8	72.7	2	66.7	220	84.3
Non-Black	4	28.6	3	27.3	1	33.3	41	15.7
<b>Age group<sup>6,β</sup></b>								
≤ 29	10	71.4	8	72.7	2	66.7	56	21.5
30-39	4	28.6	3	27.3	1	33.3	59	22.6
40-49	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	69	26.4
50+	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	77	29.5
<b>Mode of Transmission<sup>7</sup></b>								
Sexual Contact	7	50.0	6	54.5	1	33.3	173	66.3
IDU	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	15	5.7
Sexual Contact/IDU	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	16	6.1
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	1.5
Risk not identified	7	50.0	5	45.5	2	66.7	53	20.3
<b>Ward<sup>8, §</sup></b>								
1	---	---	---	---	---	---	30	11.5
2	---	---	---	---	---	---	18	6.9
3	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	2.3
4	---	---	---	---	---	---	24	9.2
5	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	13.4
6	---	---	---	---	---	---	20	7.7
7	---	---	---	---	---	---	49	18.8
8	---	---	---	---	---	---	56	21.5
Unknown	---	---	---	---	---	---	23	8.8
<b>HIV Disease Status<sup>9</sup></b>								
Stage 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	85	32.6
Stage 2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	24.1
Stage 3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19	7.3
Unknown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	94	36.0

<sup>1</sup> Transgender status reported only at the time of HIV diagnosis; Transgender PLWH population may be under-documented

<sup>2</sup> Includes all cases reported to the health department by November 16, 2014

<sup>3</sup> HIV diagnosed concurrently with Stage 3 (AIDS) disease ( includes an AIDS diagnosis within 30 days of an HIV diagnosis)

<sup>4</sup> Cumulative number of non-deceased individuals diagnosed with HIV with a residential address in the District of Columbia at the time of diagnosis. Does not account for the residential migration of persons living with HIV (PLWH) in and out of the jurisdiction over time.

<sup>5</sup> Non-Black race/ethnicity includes mixed race individuals, Whites, Asians, Alaska Natives, American Indians, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, Hispanic, and unknown.

<sup>6</sup> For HIV and AIDS diagnoses, age at diagnosis is reported; for PLWHA, age as of December 31, 2014 is reported

<sup>7</sup> Other includes perinatal transmission, hemophilia, blood transfusion, and occupational exposure (healthcare workers)

<sup>8</sup> Ward at HIV disease diagnosis

<sup>9</sup> Stage 1: CD4 T-cell count of more than 500 cells/μL; Stage 2: CD4 T-cell count of between 200 cells/μL and 500 cells/μL, CD4 T-cell percent of between 14% and 29%; Stage 3: CD4 T-cell count of less than 200 cells/μL; Unknown: CD4 test result is unknown

<sup>β</sup> Race/ethnicity and age group stratification categories may be different from that utilized in other tables in order to ensure adequate cell counts.

<sup>§</sup> Geographic data for newly diagnosed HIV cases has been suppressed given that the total number of cases within multiple wards is less than 3 for the specified time period.



# Acknowledgments

This report was compiled through the combined efforts of many individuals in the District of Columbia Department of Health's HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, and Tuberculosis Administration, with contribution from the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University. This report would not have been possible without the hard work, dedication, and contribution of health care providers, community groups, researchers, and members of the community.

Muriel Bowser, Mayor

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Brenda Donald, Deputy Mayor, Health and Human Services

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With special thanks to:

Strategic Information Division

The George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health

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